

URGES PURCHASE OF WHOLE BLOCK FOR POST OFFICE

Allan's Request Brings Special Agent to Investigate.

MILLION DOLLARS AMOUNT NEEDED

Government Must Enlarge Present Building or Erect Parcel Post Structure Elsewhere. Skyscraper Plans Halt Until Question Is Decided by Department.

The expenditure of \$1,000,000 to enlarge the Richmond post-office as that it will extend over the entire block bounded by Main and Bank and Tenth and Eleventh streets has been recommended to the government by Postmaster Edgar Allan, Jr. Acting on his recommendation, a special agent of the Treasury Department made a personal inspection of the property needed to carry out this plan, secured from the owners the price at which they are willing to sell, and returned to Washington to submit his report. While the nature of this report is not officially known, it is said that he will show the imperative need of additional post-office space.

Gets Montague's Aid.
Bankers and real estate men have known for some time that the Virginian Building Company had employed architects who are at work on plans for a twenty-two-story structure which will occupy the remaining part of the post-office block. Postmaster Allan investigated the report, and when he found that it was correct he immediately wrote to the department. Congressman A. J. Montague, through whose office the appropriation bill was originally, is strongly in favor of asking Congress for sufficient money to provide adequate postal accommodations, and will use his influence in that direction.

The figure at which the owners notified the special agent from the Treasury Department they would be willing to sell was not made public, although the building corporation acquired the two buildings at Eleventh and Main for \$350,000, and recently offered the Carneys \$150,000 for the lot extending back to Bank Street.

One Structure Anyway.
The government, of course, could institute condemnation proceedings, but the cost would be prohibitive after a twenty-two-story structure has been erected on the site needed for a post-office. It was suggested yesterday that the building plans might be delayed for a short time in order to find out what the government proposes to do, in view of the opinion among business people that if the post-office is to have more room it should be provided as a part of the new Federal building. It was stated by a man identified with the Virginian Building Company that if the government does not build a post-office, it will proceed within the next sixty days with its skyscraper plans.

Space Badly Needed.
"I have every reason to believe that the special agent from the supervising architect office under the Treasury Department will recommend the alterations and additions which we have urged," said Postmaster Allan yesterday. "The situation is simply this: Either the present post-office must be purchased and the present building enlarged or the department must erect elsewhere in the city a building for the exclusive use of the parcel post department. The plans for this office did not take into account the vast traffic in the parcel post division, and consequently no allotment of space was made for it."

When the contract for the new post-office was awarded we did not expect a parcel post, and many of us did not expect it. For the sake of efficiency and speed, I strongly believe that the parcel post should be under the post-office roof, but if it turns out to be impossible the government must certainly provide another big structure to remedy the present intolerable conditions."

Many Bills Considered.
Congressman Montague will be urged to bring the matter to the attention of the Treasury Department before the opening of Congress in January. "There is the slightest possibility that the post-office is badly off for room," said Montague yesterday. "The addition in the present block is needed, and will be made if we can secure the necessary appropriation. However, there are many things to be considered in connection with this plan—the Democratic platform of economy, the recent rebuilding of the Richmond post-office, and, finally, a bill for the standardizing of all public buildings. These are obstacles to overcome, but the need of more postal space is a powerful argument in our favor."

It did not require the unusual rush of postal traffic for the holidays to emphasize the demand for additional accommodations. The special agent from Washington saw the congestion caused by the parcel post, and the cramped and unsanitary quarters in the basement where the railway mail service operates a terminal.

Handles All State Staff.
Every bit of parcel post mail originating in Virginia passes through the basement terminal; every package from another State for Virginia, and Eastern Carolina is brought direct to Richmond and sent out to its proper destination from the local station. Under the new regulations, effective tomorrow, by which the size of parcels is increased, the rush will be all the greater, and there will be a corresponding demand for more space. As far as possible, the Post-Office Department desires to have all of its business in one city conducted from one establishment. By insisting on that rule, it will aid considerably in securing the appropriation needed to enlarge the present building.

"We have made an offer to the government for our property," said a representative of the Virginian Building Corporation, "and we are willing to sell."

(Continued on Page Eleven.)

QUEEN MOTHER SOPHIA DIES

Widow of King Oscar of Sweden Succumbs After Long Illness.

Stockholm, Sweden, December 30.—Queen Mother Sophia, of Sweden, died here to-day in her seventy-eighth year. She had suffered acutely for several days and succumbed to an attack of inflammation of the lungs.

Her majesty had been practically an invalid for more than a quarter of a century. She was subject to melancholia, which necessitated a constant watch being kept on her by her medical attendants.

She took very little part in court functions, devoting herself whenever her malady permitted to enterprises of a religious nature. She was a great sympathizer with the Salvation Army, whose operations in Scandinavia she followed with intense interest. She also was a strong advocate of temperance.

The late Queen Mother was a princess of Nassau, and was married at Wiesbaden to the late King Oscar II. In June, 1857, the royal couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1907, six months just before King Oscar's death.

Her Majesty leaves a large fortune, most of which, it is understood, will go to her younger son, Oscar, who received his rights to the throne in order to marry Princess Miksa, his mother's maid of honor. This marriage was the cause of the only difficulty which ever arose between King Oscar II. and Queen Sophia, the latter encouraging the match.

President Offers Sympathy.
Washington, December 30.—President Wilson to-day sent from Pass Christian, Miss., a message to King Gustav V. of Sweden, offering his "sincere sympathy and that of the government and people of the United States in the affliction which has befallen His Majesty and the royal family in the death of his well-beloved and illustrious mother, Her Royal Highness, the Queen Dowager Sophia."

SHOULD BE EXPELLED

Five Members of West Virginia Legislature Accepted Bribe.

Charleston, W. Va., December 30.—Five members of the West Virginia Legislature are guilty of accepting bribes in connection with the election of a United States Senator at the regular session held in January and February, 1912, and should be expelled, according to the finding of a joint legislative committee made public to-day. One member of the State Senate and six members of the House of Delegates were indicted last February, charged with accepting bribes to vote for Colonel William Seymour Edwards as United States Senator. Later Judge Nathan Coffey of the United States Circuit Court was elected.

Five of the men under indictment since have been tried, convicted and sentenced to terms in the State Penitentiary. State Senator Ben A. Smith and Delegates S. C. G. Rhoades, Ruff, Duff, H. F. Asbury and David Hill, all recommended for expulsion. Delegates George S. Van Meter and Thomas J. Smith have not been brought to trial.

ZERKOWITZ IN NEW YORK

Permitted to Land Under Bond of \$500 That He Will Leave in Thirty Days.

New York, December 30.—Emil Zerkowitz, the banker of Budapest, detained at Ellis Island upon his arrival from Europe, because he admitted he had fought a duel, was permitted to come ashore to-day under a bond of \$500, conditional that he leave the country within thirty days.

The banker intended sailing on January 14, but has appealed the decision of the Department of Labor, because he desires the privilege of visiting this country from time to time on business.

"Ellis Island is a lovely place, and I am glad to have had the honor of sleeping on the bed used by Cipriano Castro, Prince Pignatelli and Mrs. Pignatelli," Zerkowitz said. "I am glad to have been here, and I am glad to have been here."

VETERAN GETS 'POLE' FEVER

Louis de Rougemont to Explore Antarctic Regions.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] London, December 30.—Louis de Rougemont, the veteran explorer, who is now in London, has become infected with the "pole" fever, and announced to-day that he is organizing an expedition which will leave next fall to explore the Antarctic regions.

De Rougemont said that he had been guaranteed to furnish him \$250,000 to defray the expenses. The expedition will be under the patronage of the Australian government. De Rougemont recently returned from a three-year survey in the Arctic regions of northernmost Siberia.

MARRIAGE IS ANNOUNCED

Miss Lillian Pennacker Wife of U. S. Grant's Grandson.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Harrisburg, Pa., December 30.—Mrs. W. A. Pennacker, of East Waverly, Juniata County, to-day announced the marriage of her daughter, Miss Lillian Pennacker, to Lieutenant Chapman Grant, stationed at Fort Clark, Texas, along the Mexican border. Lieutenant Grant is a son of General U. S. Grant, the announcement was made at the request of the bride, who says she expects soon to go to Fort Clark. Lieutenant Grant is twenty-five years old and Mrs. Grant is twenty-three.

INQUIRY TO BE OFFICIAL

Authorities at Rome Will Investigate Death of Rampolla.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Rome, December 30.—The judicial authorities will make an official investigation into the death of Cardinal Rampolla immediately upon the unsealing of the Rampolla apartment. This investigation, according to a semi-official report, was prompted by the persistent rumors of poisoning in connection with the cardinal's disappearance and the mystery surrounding the disappearance of the famous "black box" containing the will.

BREAKS ANOTHER RECORD

Lincoln Beachey Makes First Flight Underneath a Roof.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] San Francisco, December 30.—In what is believed to be the first airplane flight attempted underneath a roof, Lincoln Beachey, a well-known aviator, made a successful flight from the interior of the Palace of Machinery at the exposition grounds to-day. The plane was a biplane, and was not injured.

RECEIVERS NAMED FOR SIEGEL STORES IN FEDERAL COURT

Suit Against Corporation Is Instituted by Holding Company.

NONE OF CONCERNS NOW IS SOLVENT

Action Taken to Conserve Good Will, to Rehabilitate and Reorganize Business—Assets and Liabilities Not Stated—Firms With Similar Names State Position.

New York, December 30.—Two great department stores in New York and one in Boston, an express, a banking, a wholesale house and a private banking house run in connection with the department stores, all allied with and controlled by the Siegel Stores Corporation, were placed in the hands of receivers to-day through a suit instituted by the holding company in the Federal Court. Henry Siegel, of this city, is directing head and president of the stores corporation.

None of the concerns, according to statements of counsel, is solvent, and the action was taken to conserve their good will, to rehabilitate and reorganize them. The assets and liabilities were not stated. Curtailment of bank credit made receivership imperative. Gross earnings heretofore have been estimated at \$400,000 annually.

Two firms, the similarity of whose corporate name in one case and stock ownership by the Siegel Stores Corporation in the other might result in the inference that they were involved in the failure, were quick to issue statements explaining their position. The Greenhut-Siegel-Cooper Company, of this city, has no connection with the firms controlled by the Siegel Stores Corporation. The firm's assets and liabilities have been estimated at \$2,000,000, mostly in small accounts. It paid 4-1/2 per cent interest. Most of the depositors were comparatively poor persons.

The Fourteenth Street Store, New York.

The Simpson-Crawford Company, New York.

Henry Siegel and Frank E. Vogel, doing a private banking business as Henry Siegel & Company, New York.

Henry Siegel & Company, wholesale salesmen, New York.

Merchants' Express Company, New York.

Henry Siegel Company, Boston, a department store.

Receivers Named.

William A. Marston and S. Sheppard, Jr., were named receivers for all except the banking house. Their bonds were set at \$50,000 each. Henry Melville was placed in charge of the banking business. The assets of the Siegel Stores were estimated at \$2,000,000, mostly in small accounts. It paid 4-1/2 per cent interest. Most of the depositors were comparatively poor persons.

Receiver Marble said to-night:

"While it is entirely too early to make any positive and detailed statement, I am willing to say as a first impression, at least, that the situation here is one where readjustment of the affairs in the interests of the creditors can and should be readily accomplished."

Mr. Melville to-night said he was not fully informed regarding the condition of the bank in the Fourteenth Street store.

"I have removed the bank to 43 and 45 West Thirtieth Street," he said, "and have engaged the American Audit Company to make a complete and thorough examination of the books. I am not concerned with the fact that there are many depositors—closely approaching 15,000—I should say—and I realize that most of these depositors would like to get directly from me such information as I possess regarding the situation. I hope all of these will realize that until I was appointed to this position of receiver, I had never heard of the banking firm of Henry Siegel & Company, and if they want to learn the truth, I suggest they give me an unhindered opportunity to make the necessary investigation of the facts of which, when completed, I shall be glad to impart to any depositor desiring them."

Liabilities About \$7,500,000.
It was stated by Receiver Marble that the liabilities of all the companies of which he had taken charge, in addition to the deposits in the Siegel bank, which was a part of the "Fourteenth Street Store," would not amount to more than \$7,500,000, of which \$2,000,000 represents the aggregate deposits of the 15,000 depositors in the bank. The amount of the assets of the concern was not given, the statement being made that only a complete examination of the books of the concern would develop this.

It was stated by representatives of the Siegel firm to-night that, in addition to the deposit of \$100,000 required by the State Comptroller from firms as private bankers, the depositors were to be paid \$25,000,000 of the stock of the Siegel Stores Corporation, the holding company under which the Fourteenth Street Store and the other concerns for which receivers were appointed, exclusive of the bank, operate.

The following statement, issued to-day by Rose & Paskus, counsel for Simpson-Crawford and the Fourteenth Street Store, outlines the ascribed cause of the receivership:

"The appointment of the receivers was consented to only after every effort had been made to continue the business. The concerns have been accustomed to a large line of banking credit, which has been very much curtailed during the last year. The income of the business has been reduced."

ANXIOUS TO AVERT FORMAL PROTEST BY GREAT BRITAIN

Government Will Rush Work on Panama Canal Fortifications.

THEN IN POSITION TO SAY "TOO LATE"

Anxiety of Officials to Put Final Touches on Defense Plans Is Result of Hint From England That Controversy Might Be Renewed.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Washington, December 30.—Stirred by the renewed restlessness of Great Britain concerning the Panama Canal fortifications, the War Department is straining its energy to complete its work in advance of a formal protest from England.

Should England decide to follow its hint of objection with a formal diplomatic note, this government wants to be in a position to answer that the fortification is already complete and that the protest comes too late.

It has been learned that the board composed of the highest officials and fortification experts in the army, named last Saturday by Secretary Garrison to put the final touches on the canal fortifications, is the result of the hint from England that the fortification controversy might be renewed.

The chairman of the board is Major-General Leonard Wood, chief of staff, with Major-General Wotherspoon, assistant chief of staff and recently head of the War College, as vice chairmen. The other members of the board are Brigadier-General Crozier, chief of ordnance; General Erasmus M. Weaver, chief of Coast Artillery, and Captain Harry S. Knapp, U. S. N.; Colonel George W. Goethals, Corps of Engineers; Captain William R. Shoemaker, U. S. N.; Colonel Edward Burr, Corps of Engineers; Lieutenant-Colonel William G. Haan, Coast Artillery Corps; Major William Chamberlain, C. A. C.

These officers are a part of the army and were selected with the special view of rushing the fortification work.

It has always been intended at the War Department that the fortifications be completed at the opening of the canal, but the plan now is to finish the work at the earliest possible date. The canal is practically complete now for agency purposes.

From the beginning the War Department has maintained secrecy concerning the defense plans. Neither Americans nor foreigners are permitted to visit the fortification sites at the canal. No reports have been made public as to the progress of the armament for the forts, although it is understood that several twelve-inch mortars for the canal have already been tested at Fort Belvoir, the sixteen-inch gun there shortly will be tested at Panama.

At the State Department there scarcely any further attempt to conceal the fact that this government is carrying a close inquiry, not only concerning the German and British, but also the French, Italian and Japanese, at the bottom of the whole German-English commercial combine against this country.

The government officials were especially interested in dispatches quoting the London Times as saying that the press and the United States government had agreed to the adoption of the Colombia oil contract, that the adoption of the oil contract was predicted after the coming presidential elections in Colombia.

Dispatches from Mexico reporting that Lord Cowdray has obtained a loan of \$12,500,000 for the Mexican government were also read with interest by the State Department officials.

Immediate Reprisals.
There are to be immediate American reprisals against the British-German combine, it was said to-day. Foreign representatives of foreign steamship lines are seeking to verify petitions emanating from Indiana that calling on all Americans to patronize any steamship lines to Europe owned or backed by governments which did not participate in the San Francisco exposition.

The successful carrying out of this plan would enormously benefit the French steamship lines, at the expense of lines of other countries which did not take part in the exposition. Among the officials who deal with commerce of the United States, the British-German combine is looked upon as somewhat of a stimulus to American industry. It is declared that it will put American business men on their mettle, result in the rehabilitation of the American merchant marine and the establishment of American marine insurance concerns to take care of this country's shipping and to invade foreign fields of insurance.

One striking suggestion is that in answer to the alleged attempt of Germany and England to cripple the exportation there will probably be a strong movement to divert the travel of Americans to the West, instead of to Europe, thus cutting off the rippling which the Old World has so bountifully had from this country, and bringing the American millions at home.

LIND TO CONFER WITH WILSON ON MEXICAN AFFAIRS

Leaves Vera Cruz for Pass Christian on Fast Cruiser.

SHOULD END TRIP WITHIN 26 HOURS

By New Year's Morning the President and His Personal Representative Will Be Talking Over International Problems Arising Out of Situation on Border.

Vera Cruz, December 30.—By breakfast time on New Year's Day, if no untoward incident occurs, John Lind, President Wilson's personal representative, and the President himself will be talking over, face to face, the international problems arising out of the Mexican revolution.

Mr. Lind left Vera Cruz at 6 o'clock to-night on board the Chester, the fastest cruiser of the American navy, bound for Pass Christian, Miss., where President Wilson is spending his vacation. The Chester's captain and Rear-Admiral Frank P. Fletcher assured Mr. Lind that within 26 hours should suffice to land him on the Louisiana coast, whence he will proceed as quickly as possible to Pass Christian. Few persons in Vera Cruz knew of the orders to Mr. Lind, and that small portion of the Mexican population which witnessed his departure regarded his suitcases with expressions indicative of varied opinions.

It is not secret that Mr. Lind welcomed the summons to meet his chief for personal counsel.

Wanted Direct Counsel.

Since his coming to Mexico almost five months ago, Mr. Lind has forwarded to Washington voluminous reports of the changing conditions in this republic, but it is known that he has been under the restrictions of written communication, and often expressed a desire to "have just a few minutes' direct conversation" with either the President or the Secretary of State.

During the time he has been here, President Wilson's envoy has given earnest study to the situation from an economic and political point of view. He has conferred with representatives of both sides until he believes he has acquired a comprehensive grasp of affairs.

The financial isolation of the present administration has reduced President Wilson to straits, but not so desperate that he is forced to yield. So long as there is money in the treasury, he means to obtain it, and this situation advanced by Mr. Lind. Nor has the rapid rise of late years been the time for a full accounting between the Federalists and the Constitutionalists, in the opinion of observers generally.

Mr. Lind took with him a greater baggage here, assuring the President of his personal permission to return in four or five days at the latest.

Permission Given to Lind.
Pass Christian, Miss., December 30.—President Wilson has given permission to John Lind, his personal representative in Mexico, to come here from Vera Cruz for a conference on Mexican affairs.

Mr. Lind asked, through the State Department, whether he could leave to sail aboard the Chester, which was to leave Vera Cruz, and messages passed between the State Department, the navy, and the President, by which the Chester was to be held pending Mr. Lind's return to-night the President had received no official confirmation as to whether or not Mr. Lind had availed himself of this opportunity.

The President declined to discuss the matter. It was stated, however, at the President's cottage that if Mr. Lind did come, his visit would be of no special significance, and would mean that he wished to report in person more fully and comprehensively than he could by cable.

It was learned authoritatively, moreover, that there was no particular development in the situation which impelled Mr. Lind to seek an audience with the President at this time. Mr. Lind was also permitted to come only to a brief vacation in Mexico, and it is assumed, therefore, that he will go back after he has talked with the President, that his definite plans were not made known here.

Free From Routine.
The conference was granted by the President because he is free from the routine of work here and can concentrate his mind on the Mexican question without interruption. A frank and intimate interchange of ideas on the situation would be of value at this time, as it is known that the President has been desirous of mapping out more steps in the American policy toward Mexico. The President is slowly crumbling, and that the financial distress of the southern republic alone is bound to cause the ultimate downfall of the present regime. A discussion of the present situation might follow in certain emergencies is fully expected by those who have followed the Mexican policy of the administration closely.

It is not known here as yet whether Secretary Bryan will come South to talk with the President and Mr. Lind, or whether the latter will make a trip to Washington before going back to Mexico.

The cruiser Chester cannot land here on account of the shallow water, but a United States revenue cutter, in here at Pass Christian, is being used, and probably will be used in taking Mr. Lind off the larger vessel.

Mr. Lind's conference here would mean the first interruption of the New Year's celebration.

PRESIDENT MUCH IMPROVED

Greatly Benefited by Rest and Recreation in Mild Gulf Climate.

Pass Christian, Miss., December 30.—President Wilson's vacation is greatly improving his health. As he climbed over the bunkers at the golf links to-day there was a resiliency in his step and a vigor in his walk that revealed to those who have been constantly observing him how much he has been benefited by a week of rest and recreation in the mild Gulf climate.

The President played eighteen holes of golf again to-day and seemed to enjoy the exercise keenly. He is growing accustomed to the starchy grass of the links, with its retarding effect on the roll of drives, and made a much better score to-day than usual.

After his walk back to Pass Christian from the Southern links, the President's automobile passed near a fire on the waterfront that was taking the ability of the entire Gulfport fire department. Mr. Wilson, however, decided that he would not leave his room to-day, and continued on to his cottage.

Many letters and telegrams of felicitation on the New Year arrived to-day, and the President's stenographer was kept busy acknowledging them.

President Wilson has now practically decided on a brief visit to New Orleans as a climax to his Southern trip. It is probable he will steal away from the Southern States unannounced and unheralded and endeavor to enjoy himself there with some of his friends without his presence becoming known to the city.

DENNY OUT OF DANGER

Methodist Bishop Feels No Ill Effects From Recent Experience.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] Baltimore, Md., December 30.—Bishop Collins Denny, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, who swallowed a quantity of carbon tetrachloride last Wednesday at Pass Christian, Miss., and who is now visiting his cousin, former Congressman James W. Denny, in this city, is practically out of danger. Bishop Denny is under the care of Dr. L. P. Barker, of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. The bishop declares that he feels no ill effects from his experience.

The distinguished churchman swallowed the poison accidentally, and quick use of the stomach pump in his Richmond home undoubtedly prevented the fatal result. Bishop Denny will leave Baltimore for Richmond in a few days. He has received many letters and telegrams inquiring about his condition.

MRS. LILLIE D. BLAKE DEAD

Native of Raleigh, Pioneer Suffragist, Expires at Englewood, N. J.

Englewood, N. J., December 30.—Mrs. Lillie Devereaux Blake, a pioneer suffragist, died in a sanatorium here to-day, aged eighty years. She had been ill for several years.

Mrs. Blake was the author of several successful novels in her earlier years, but devoted the greater part of her life to championing the cause of woman's rights. She was born in Raleigh, N. C., in 1835, she married F. G. Umsted, a Philadelphia lawyer. He died in 1859, and seven years later she married Grinnell Blake, a New York merchant.

In 1878 she espoused the cause of woman suffrage, then generally unpopular. Since then she has lectured in nearly every State, and has appeared many times before Congress and Legislatures.

SATO ARRIVES FROM JAPAN

Will Lecture Before Seven American Universities During Visit.

San Francisco, December 30.—To lecture before seven American universities in the interest of international peace, Dr. Shunroku Sato, dean of the College of Agriculture of Tohoku Imperial University, Hokkaido, Japan, arrived here to-day on the liner Shinyo. Dr. Sato is the first exchange professor to be sent to America from Japan under the Carnegie Peace Foundation.

Dr. Sato expects to renew his acquaintance with President Wilson, whose classmate at Johns Hopkins University in the class of 1885. Dr. Sato's first speaking engagement is at the University of Virginia on January 1. From there he will go to the University of North Carolina, then to the University of Illinois, and the University of Minnesota.

AGREEMENT IS REACHED

Strike of Telegraphers on St. Louis and San Francisco Road Averted.

St. Louis, Mo., December 30.—A strike of telegraphers on the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad was averted late this afternoon, when W. T. Tyler, general manager of the Frisco, reached an agreement with the grievance committee of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers.

The receivers refused to give out details of the settlement, but will make them public when terms are formally announced. A concession was announced, however, that concessions had been made by both sides.

The conference with Mr. Tyler took place after the receivers and the union committee apparently had reached a deadlock.

WILL SEARCH FOR LOPEZ

Sheriff Smith Decides to Unseat Mine on Friday.

Bingham, Utah, December 30.—Sheriff Smith decided to-day to open the Utah-Apex mine on Friday and search for the body of the slain miner, John Doe. It generally is believed the desperado has escaped, but the sheriff is confident he succumbed either to hunger or to gases generated in the tunnels.

CHAMBER FAVORS ACCEPTANCE OF COLLEGE OFFER

Urges City Council to Take Over the Virginia Hospital at Once.

WANTS STAFF FROM COLLEGE FACULTY

Councilman Umlauf Speaks in Opposition—Alderman Mitchell Says City Made Mistake When It Failed to Accept Offer of Memorial Hospital.

After two hours of thorough presentation of arguments on both sides, the Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon unanimously approved the plan for a public free hospital. In the resolutions adopted, the City Council is urged promptly to accept the Virginia Hospital, offered free of rent by the Medical College of Virginia. The Administrative Board, in arranging a contract with the medical college, is requested to stipulate that the visiting staff of the medical college of Virginia, permitting an emergency physician to summon his family physician on approval of the visiting staff, and prudential clinical advantages to the Medical College of Virginia.

Resolutions Adopted.
Resolutions offered by Judge George L. Christian and seconded by William T. Reed, the close of the debate were adopted as follows:

Whereas, the Chamber of Commerce is impressed with the necessity for a municipal hospital in the city of Richmond, and is convinced that the Medical College of Virginia, the Virginia Hospital for the purpose, and in the most efficient manner by selecting the visiting staff from the faculty of the Medical College of Virginia, permitting an emergency physician to summon his family physician on approval of the visiting staff, and that the said hospital will thereby incidentally afford clinical advantages to the Medical College of Virginia; and Whereas, such action will be helpful in bringing about the merger of the Medical College of Virginia with the medical department of the University of Virginia, and bringing the same to Richmond, and which it is believed will advance medical education and the material prosperity of Richmond; and

Whereas, this body has confidence in the Board of Aldermen, the Common Council and the Administrative Board, but desire to present to them their views upon these important matters—Therefore be it resolved:

(1) That the Board of Aldermen and the Common Council be, and they are hereby, requested and urged promptly to accept the tender of the Virginia Hospital.

(2) That the Administrative Board or other body authorized to contract with the Medical College of Virginia for the Virginia Hospital be and it is hereby requested and urged to agree to such a medical staff for the hospital as is described in the preamble to these resolutions.

Should Have Been Accepted.
In Carrington said in meeting President Wilson that it was one of the functions of the chamber to make for those elements that make for the city progress, especially when those elements are not really very far apart. Dr. Sato presented the situation. The chamber, he said, had no ax to grind—no personal interest—but was a forum where every one could come and express his opinion. It was an offer, Mr. Carrington said, that should have been accepted long ago. Last August the tender of the Virginia Hospital building, fully equipped, for a free public hospital was made by a string of public utility corporations, amended in the Finance Committee of the City Council to provide that any patient should have the privilege of sending for his family physician.

"If it is too poor to go to a hospital on his own account," said Mr. Carrington, "he should accept the medical attention that the city furnishes. It is altogether improbable that those who care to use a free hospital would care to go outside and employ expensive physicians, when the very best men in the profession practice in the hospital free."

Nothing Secret, Says Morris.
"All that was asked in return for this building was the clinical advantages which the medical department of the university may be brought to Richmond. There is no secret about it. The whole matter is simply that, if by such consolidation we can qualify ourselves for such endowment, we may be able to obtain, we will have right here in Richmond the largest medical school in the South. We have brought about a consolidation of the local colleges, and we have a harmony to-day. The executive committee has never had the least idea, by thought or word or deed, that there ever were two colleges. Having done these large outlays, it is discouraging to men who are giving freely of their time and brain without any compensation, and our work stopped by unimportant details, and talk in the City Council of there being a 'negro in the woods,' when none exists. Such an idea as not calling in